

Message Text

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60

ACTION SCCT-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OC-05

CCO-00 SCSE-00 SCA-01 OPR-02 A-01 SY-04 USSS-00 IO-10

EB-07 /093 W

----- 089719

O R 192323Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5987

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY BONN

FAA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

FAA BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS PARIS 01537

E.O. LL652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, DE, IS, FR

SUBJECT: TERRORIST ATTACK AT ORLY

REF: PARIS 1536 (NOTAL)

1. BASED ON INFO FROM WIRE SERVICE REPORTS AND RADIO
NEWSCASTS, BELOW IS BRIEF SUMMARY OF WHAT APPEARS TO
HAVE BEEN TRAIN OF EVENTS MARKING LATEST TERRORIST
ATTACK AT ORLY AIRPORT AFTERNOON OF JANUARY 19. SINCE
ABOVE INFO IS STILL FRAGMENTARY IN SOME RESPECTS,
MORE DETAILED AND DOUBTLESS MORE ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF
EVENTS CAN BE PIECED TOGETHER ONLY LATER.

2. AT ABOUT 4:15 PM EL AL 747 WAS TAXIING AWAY FROM
ORLY-SOUTH TERMINAL PREPARATORY FOR TAKE-OFF TO TEL-
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AVIV. TERRORIST LEFT MAIN HALL OF PUBLIC AREA ON

SECOND FLOOR (PREMIERE ETAGE) OF TERMINAL AND STEPPED OUT ONTO TERRACE. HE WAS SPOTTED BY A POLICEMAN AS HE AIMED A WEAPON ("UN FUSIL DE GUERRE") AT DEPARTING EL AL PLANE. (EYEWITNESS INTERVIEWED ON RADIO CLAIMS WEAPON WAS RIFLE FITTED WITH TELESCOPIC SIGHT.) POLICEMAN FIRED SUBMACHINEGUN BURST AT TERRORIST BUT MISSED. TERRORIST RAN BACK INTO MAIN HALL OF TERMINAL WHERE SECOND TERRORIST AWAITED HIM. THEY THREW AT LEAST ONE HAND GRENADE TO COVER THEIR RETREAT. POLICE INSIDE HALL THEN OPENED FIRE WHICH TERRORISTS RETURNED. WITH ESCAPE BLOCKED, TERRORISTS HOLED UP IN PUBLIC TOILETS AT ONE END OF MAIN HALL, WHERE THEY STILL ARE AT THIS HOUR. THEY ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE HOSTAGES WITH THEM; WHILE NEWS REPORTS MENTION THREE HOSTAGES, POLICE CLAIM TO HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING HOW MANY HOSTAGES THERE MIGHT BE AND THEIR IDENTITY THOUGH THINK IT "PROBABLE" THAT THERE ARE HOSTAGES.

3. TERRORISTS SLIPPED OUT NOTE TO POLICE ASKING FOR BOEING 707 AND CREW TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO FLY THEM OUT OF FRANCE FOLLOWING MORNING. TERRORISTS CLAIM TO BE MEMBERS OF GROUP CALLED "MOHAMMED BOUDIA COMMAND." (REUTERS REPORTS IT RECEIVED PHONE CALL LAST WEEK FROM PERSON SAYING HE WAS MEMBER OF THAT GROUP AND CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR BAZOOKA ATTACK AT ORLY JANUARY 13 AGAINST EL AL PLANE.) PLO REP IN PARIS SAID IN RADIO INTERVIEW THAT PLO WAS IN NO WAY INVOLVED IN TODAY'S ATTACK.

4. WHILE IN EARLY EVENING IT WAS REPORTED THAT POLICE WITH ASSISTANCE OF FIREMEN SEEMED TO BE PREPARING TO MOUNT TEAR GAS ATTACK, THIS DID NOT OCCUR. IN MEAN-TIME ORLY IS IN A STATE OF SIEGE, WITH HEAVY POLICE REINFORCEMENTS OF COURSE HAVING BEEN MOVED IN AND THE TERMINAL BUILDING BEING COMPLETELY SEALED OFF. AS REPORTED REFTEL, SINCE IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT TERRORISTS HAVE TRANSISTOR RADIO THERE HAS BEEN A NEAR BLACKOUT OF NEWS.

5. THOUGH INITIAL REPORTS INDICATED ABOUT TWENTY PERSONS HAD BEEN WOUNDED IN THE ATTACK, LATEST FIGURES ARE THAT ONLY EIGHT PERSONS HAVE BEEN HOSPITALIZED. COMMENT: SINCE ORLY ATTRACTS MANY SIGHTSEERS ESPECIALLY UNCLASSIFIED

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ON A SUNDAY IN ADDITION TO ITS NORMALLY HEAVY PASSENGER TRAFFIC, IT IS A MIRACLE THAT MORE PERSONS WERE NOT HURT.

6. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE ATTACK ORLY WAS CLOSED TO AIR TRAFFIC (THE EL AL 747 HAD TAKEN OFF WITHOUT INCIDENT), AND TRAFFIC WAS DIVERTED TO CHARLES DE GAULLE AND LE BOURGET AIRPORTS. SERVICE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY RESUMED AT ORLY THOUGH ALL FLIGHTS ARE BEING OPERATED

FROM THE ORLY-WEST TERMINAL.
RUSH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PARIS01537
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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